

Jinna Balu

Platform Architect • SRE • DevSecOps



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🏆 **Value Ambassador Award** — @ Wisestep, 2020 • Platform Engineering Role

PERSONAL PROFILE

Platform Architect with 12+ years of experience building and operating distributed systems, internal platforms, and reliability practices for global engineering teams. I lead architecture across infrastructure, CI/CD, observability, security, and data services, with hands-on ownership from design through production operations and a default focus on identifying toil and removing it.

SELECTED IMPACT

- Reduced AWS spend from **\$27K/month** to **\$12K/month** for a client environment through right-sizing, storage optimization, and infrastructure cleanup.
- Architected a centralized logging platform for **12+ data centers** processing **21M logs per hour** using application appenders, Kafka, Logstash, and Elasticsearch.
- Led a zero-downtime migration of a high-risk global traffic entry point from **Oracle Dyn** to **Cloudflare Load Balancer**, partnering with the team while driving the DNS and cutover strategy.
- Built deep hands-on expertise in **LDAP**, including multi-master deployments, migrations, productized management workflows, and open-source delivery through **LDAP Manager** and **OpenLDAP Docker**.
- Built **Docker Registry UI** as an open-source product with built-in **Trivy** image scanning for registry operations and security visibility.

WORK EXPERIENCE

SRE Lead • DevSecOps Architect

Aug 2022 – Present

- Owned platform architecture for **12+ data centers** running distributed services such as **Kafka**, **Cassandra**, **MongoDB**, **Solr**, and **ZooKeeper**.
- Eliminated legacy single points of failure by redesigning critical services into highly available, fault-tolerant multi-data-center systems.
- Led platform evolution from **DC/OS** (Mesos/Marathon) to **Kubernetes**, migrating workloads with **Helm** and improving long-term operability.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Platform Engg	<div style="width: 90%;"></div>
DevOps	<div style="width: 95%;"></div>
DevSecOps	<div style="width: 90%;"></div>
Cloud	<div style="width: 70%;"></div>
SRE Practices	<div style="width: 80%;"></div>
Developer	<div style="width: 75%;"></div>
Team Management	<div style="width: 20%;"></div>
System Design	<div style="width: 40%;"></div>

SKILLS

CLOUD SERVICES

AWS, Azure, Digital Ocean, IAM, S3, EKS, ECS, EC2, SES, AKS, AGIC, Audit Manager, Security Hub, Config, GuardDuty, Capacity Planning

CONTAINERISATION

Docker, Podman, Docker Swarm, Kubernetes, DC/OS, Mesos, Marathon, Helm

CI/CD & AUTOMATION

Jenkins, Bitbucket Pipelines, Remote Runners, GitLab, GitHub Actions, Ansible, Monorepo, Polyrepo

SECURITY & COMPLIANCE

SOC2, GDPR, PCI DSS, SonarQube, SAST, DAST, Snyk, Trivy, Gitleaks, VAPT, Arachni, SPF, DKIM, DMARC

DNS & LOAD BALANCING

Caddy, NGINX, ALB, ELB, Cloudflare, HAProxy, Keepalived, VRRP

- Standardized regional high availability with **HAProxy**, **VRRP**, and **Keepalived**, then led the zero-downtime migration of the global traffic entry point from **Oracle Dyn** to **Cloudflare Load Balancer**.
- Architected a centralized logging system for **12+ data centers**, routing application logs through local appenders to **Kafka**, then into central **Logstash** and **Elasticsearch**, sustaining **21M logs per hour**.
- Established infrastructure and uptime monitoring with **Datadog** and **Uptime Kuma** to improve operational visibility and incident response.
- Automated infrastructure and service delivery with **Ansible** across both containerized (**Docker/Podman**) and host-based environments, reducing deployment friction and manual toil.
- Introduced **Bitbucket Pipelines** with self-hosted **Remote Runners** as a modern CI/CD path and laid the groundwork for migration away from legacy **Jenkins** workflows.
- Strengthened production security by adding subdomain takeover controls and enforcing **SPF**, **DKIM**, and **DMARC** policies.
- Executed zero-downtime **LDAP** storage migrations (BDB to HDB to MDB), preserving data integrity and service continuity.
- Designed new cloud infrastructure on **Azure**, migrated workloads to **AKS**, implemented **AGIC v2**, and operationalized logging and monitoring agents as **DaemonSets**.
- Built internal platform products with **Amazon Q**, **Claude**, and **GitHub Copilot**, including:
 - A **Spring Boot** and **React** status platform with **Go**-based agents for global latency and synthetic monitoring.
 - A custom **LDAP Manager UI** built with **React**, **shadcn/ui**, and **Tailwind CSS** to simplify directory operations.
- Drove platform upgrades and infrastructure improvements that reduced operational toil and improved service reliability for globally used systems.

DevOps Manager

Apr 2021 – Jul 2022

- Led platform operations across **Docker Swarm**, **ECS**, and **Kubernetes** for application delivery and infrastructure standardization.
- Operated containerized **Cassandra**, **Elasticsearch**, **Kafka**, and **Redis** clusters with a focus on reliability, consistency, and scaling.
- Embedded compliance controls with **AWS Audit Manager**, **Security Hub**, and **Config** to support **SOC2** operations.
- Established observability-driven engineering with **Elasticsearch**, **Beats**, **Logstash**, and the **Prometheus** stack.
- Managed platform delivery using **Kanban** and **Scrum**, keeping error budgets, toil budgets, and operational overhead under control.
- Built and maintained a secure developer access center for internal services and operational workflows.
- Standardized ingress and traffic management using **NGINX** and **Caddy**.
- Automated CI/CD and infrastructure changes with **Git**, **Jenkins**, and **Ansible**.
- Scaled **Elasticsearch** without downtime or data loss while preserving disaster recovery paths with low **RTO** and **RPO**.

MONITORING & OBSERVABILITY

ELK, Prometheus, Grafana, Beats, Logstash, Datadog, Uptime Kuma

DATA PLATFORMS

PostgreSQL, Cassandra, Elasticsearch, MongoDB, Redis, Kafka, Kafka Connect, RabbitMQ, Solr, Apache Nifi, Airflow

LANGUAGES & FRAMEWORKS

Java, Go, C#, Python, Spring Boot, FastAPI, React, Tailwind CSS, shadcn/ui, ASP.NET MVC, AngularJS

SCAFFOLDING & TOOLS

JHipster, Jekyll, Hugo, Yeoman

VERSION CONTROL

Git, Monorepo, Polyrepo, GitHub, GitLab, Bitbucket

OPERATING SYSTEMS

Ubuntu, Mac, Windows

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Kanban, Scrum, Jira, Trello, Pivotal Tracker

AI-ASSISTED DEVELOPMENT

Amazon Q, Claude, GitHub Copilot

EDUCATION

MCA

JNTU Hyderabad, 2010 - 2013
CGPA 7.5 / 10

BSc, Computer Science

Osmania University, 2007 - 2010
CGPA 6.5 / 10

VOLUNTEER

Gramabharati

Gramavikas

Ekalavya Foundation

- Owned infrastructure automation, reliability, security, capacity planning, and change management with a lean team of 2.

Platform Engineer — Wisestep

Apr 2019 – Mar 2021

- Built and operated **Spring Boot** microservices on **AWS**, packaging services with **Docker** and improving release consistency.
- Automated deployments through CI/CD pipelines and structured change management practices.
- Established application and infrastructure monitoring for earlier fault detection and healthier releases.
- Managed distributed NoSQL and search clusters with attention to consistency, availability, and operational stability.
- Improved platform resilience across security, performance, and reliability concerns.
- Implemented application performance monitoring and real-user monitoring to improve visibility into customer experience.
- Applied **AWS** security and cost-optimization practices to production environments while building a stable operational baseline from scratch.
- Ran vulnerability assessments using open-source tooling and improved release readiness.
- Partnered with product engineering on release management and feature lifecycle delivery for the Wisestep recruitment platform.
- Acted as the primary infrastructure decision-maker at Wisestep, building the platform from the ground up without an established guide and iteratively shaping it into a stable, cost-conscious production system.

Product Development Engineer — Wisestep

Sep 2014 – Mar 2019

- Built and supported business-critical applications across product engineering, backend workflows, and customer-facing features.
- Translated product requirements into UI, backend, and reporting enhancements with end-to-end ownership.
- Delivered application code, structured releases, and maintainable implementations across evolving product modules.
- Developed reports and analytical workflows to support operational and business decision-making.
- Contributed to unit, system, and user acceptance testing to improve release quality.
- Applied data science techniques for real-time anomaly detection and diagnosis of high-impact production problems.

Project #3: Wisestep ATS — Full Stack Engineer

Built and operated environments for a microservices-based recruitment platform handling partner-driven hiring workflows. Owned application security with OWASP and VAPT practices, containerization with Docker Swarm, CI/CD with Jenkins and Ansible, AWS IAM and parameter security, and day-to-day operations for Elasticsearch, Cassandra, and Kafka.

HTML, CSS, AngularJS, Bootstrap, Thymeleaf, Java, Spring MVC, Elasticsearch, Cassandra, Microservices, JHipster, AWS, Docker, Docker Swarm, NGINX, VAPT

Project #2: Wisestep Pulse — Full Stack Developer

Delivered a recruitment operations platform covering timesheets, contracts, and payments, with individual ownership across frontend, APIs, database design, and SQL performance tuning.

ASP.NET MVC, Entity Framework, C#, SQL Server 2008, AngularJS, HTML, CSS, Bootstrap, Gulp, Solr

Project #1: MIS — .NET Developer

Built and maintained an internal recruiting operations system with end-to-end ownership across feature delivery, release management, monitoring, troubleshooting, and IIS deployments.

ASP.NET Web Application, ASP.NET MVC, Entity Framework, C#, AngularJS, HTML, CSS, Bootstrap, Gulp, Solr, SQL Server 2008